

From: Amy Ayer
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 5:48pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I was disturbed to learn that the proposed settlement does not include strong requirements that Microsoft document exactly how its operating system works, releasing the information immediately after each change, so that other software companies can design software to run reliably under Microsoft operating systems.

As a professional software instructor, I have observed that many fine programs such as Adobe Photoshop and the Corel office suite run unreliably under Windows, even though Photoshop runs beautifully on Macintoshes and the Microsoft office suite displays far fewer problems.

I believe Microsoft has a history of keeping specifications secret and writing non-standard code (e.g. the scandal a few months ago when they designed www.msn.com to run badly on the Opera browser) as a way of forcing people to use their products rather than superior products by other companies. This is an abuse of power gained by their monopoly on operating systems.

Please alter the judgement to include

- 1) Clear and full documentation of Windows
- 2) Clear and full documentation of Microsoft applications, so they can be run on other operating systems.

Sincerely yours,
Amelia Ayer
Norwich, CT

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